

**The Times,  
They Are A Changing!**

Remember *Blockbuster*? The market changed out from under them and their main product lost its relevance as technology changed and VHS tapes became obsolete. The market for recorded programs still exist, but the way *Blockbuster* provided the movies no longer met the need of consumers. Of course, they are not the only ones; lately, I've been receiving ads for *Sports Authority* going out of business sale. I'm not sure what happened with the large sporting goods store. Apparently you can have the right product and be well entrenched in the market and still go out of business. They did have a large debt load and it's been suggested that high-end sporting equipment buyers want a "better shopping experience" whatever that means. Somewhere along the line, *Blockbuster* and *Sports Authority* didn't keep up with the changing market. The result was the loss of a lot of hopes, dreams, and jobs. So what does that have to do with the church?

Our world is changing, the way we shop, entertain ourselves and even communicate. That said, God isn't going anywhere. **The Holy Spirit of God will be with us till the end of time.** The Church of Jesus Christ will thrive in the world in

spite of our changes. These are a given, a certainty from the very source of life and salvation. This does not mean individual congregations, will continue. Just think about the changes in the worldwide church over the last 2,000 years. It's not the church of Paul, Martin Luther, John Wesley or even Billy Graham. But it is and always will be the Church of Jesus Christ. While God doesn't change, the church does. While the message of God's salvation through Jesus doesn't change, the voice that delivers it does. We know the church exists for the simple reason of making and being disciples of Jesus Christ to transform this world. If we keep this as our mission from Christ, I am convinced that the Spirit will continue to use our congregation to heal this broken world. If we lose sight of our mission? Well, I think all bets are off. Without our God-given purpose, our reason becomes self-centered.

One thing that has always been a consistent part of the church is the effort and care it takes to continue its' sacred mission. From the earliest days offerings of time and money were brought to the temple to show devotion and obedience to God. They were the sacrifices which made it possible to keep the "House of the Lord" maintained and available for the people's worship. The giving of personal time

and finance have always been part of the workings of the church. The ability to adapt to reach the people around us is another constant. As the Body of Christ, we are instructed to listen to the Spirit and follow. In the Gospel of John, Jesus told Nicodemus to listen to the wind (Spirit); we are to follow where God is going.

*The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going.* John 3:8

We cannot expect God to follow where we are going. Neither, can we expect the Spirit (Wind) to remain still because we are comfortable. The Lord has business to take care of, souls to bring into salvation, and I believe He expects us to follow Him. As we move into the summer lull, many of our outreach missions still need our help and the Church still needs to be financed. There are still people in our community who need to hear and experience the Good News of Jesus Christ. We continue to need to listen to the Spirit for fresh ideas from Christ about how best to use His church.

Take Care and God Bless,

*Pastor Rick*

"We are all caretakers in God's garden. Our work is our praise!"

## Victory in Jesus

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood;  
He loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him;  
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.*

How great it is to feel victory—whether it comes from running a race, winning a baseball game, a game of cards, or playing bingo. There is just something about being at the top of our game and surpassing others that gives us a thrill.

But Jesus won the best victory of all for us. Being sent to earth by his Father, he lived a life of ministry and loving others and through God's grace he gave himself up to suffering and death and then above all, he conquered death and rose from the grave so that we might have eternal life. NOW THAT IS VICTORY! We didn't even have to participate in the "game" and came out victors! Praise God!

We may not be the best baseball player, fastest runner or even hold the best hand in a game of cards, but there is no greater victory than being on Jesus team.

But thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
*I Corinthians 15: 56b*

*Thank you, Lord, for your victory over death and for conquering the grave. We praise you for your sacrifice, that we, too, may have victory in you. Amen*

*Carole* 🎵

## A Work In Progress

Like a lot of churches, we'd gotten to a point where no one had any idea how many keys had been given out and to whom. Even folks who no longer attended our services had keys to the building. In order to alleviate the problem, the Trustees had our church rekeyed. This will be of considerable help in maintaining the security of our building and the safety of all of our members and staff. The Trustees are working out a key policy which will help keep the number of outstanding keys to a minimal.

We have also found that we have become lacks and inconsistent in our building use policy. The Trustees and the Church office are asking for everyone's cooperation as we seek to secure and maintain our facilities. The facility use policy requires each person to fill out a request to reserve the Fellowship Hall, pay a \$50.00 returnable deposit, and check out a key and return it when the event is over. We need to be consistent and work together to maintain a more secure building policy.



The Susannah Wesley Fellowship and the Elsie Sullivan Circle of the United Methodist Women enjoyed an end-of-year combined supper Tuesday, June 14, in the Fellowship Hall.

The theme for the meeting was "tea". "Teapots" from Dusty Andree's collection were displayed. Speaker for the program was Pat Aulds, owner of *Pat's Tea Shoppe* in Wichita Falls.

U.M.W. will not be meeting this summer but will resume on September 6, 2016 with their business meeting. The Elsie Sullivan Circle will meet on September 13, 2016.



Thank you to Kris Lovelady and Mindy Sullivan for directing V.B.S. and to all those who volunteered to make V.B.S. a successful week.

# July 2016 @ FUMC

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3	4 Office closed 	5	6	7 6:00 Worship Committee mtg. 7:00 WFF	8	9 9:00-11:00 Food box distribution
10	11 7:00 WFF	12	13	14 7:00 WFF	15	16
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0e68c; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p><b>Pastor Rick will be out of office 11th - 15th completing Residency papers for the Conference.</b></p> </div>						
17	18 7:00 WFF	19 6:00 S/PPR mtg.	20	21 7:00 WFF	22	23 8:30 - 12:00 Visioning Workshop
24	25	26	27	28 4:00 Commodity distribution	29	30
31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #add8e6; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 60%;"> <p><b>Women of Faith &amp; Fitness will not be meeting on July 4th, 25th, 28th, or Aug. 1st.</b></p> </div>					

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

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## Everything Has It's Time

In the book of Ecclesiastes, chapter three, it tells us that *"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."*

The time has come for the Michael family to move. Matthew has been given a promotion on his job which requires the family to move to Indiana. Since joining FUMC in 2011, they have been active members of this congregation. Thank you Matthew, Julie, Madison, and Kayleigh for your service and for allowing FUMC to be your Church family. We pray God's grace will be felt as you explore what lies ahead for your family.

With this family moving on that means some vacancies need to be filled especially in our children's ministry. We need someone to take on being Children's Church Coordinator and Kidz Klub Coordinator. Prayerfully consider what God would have you do to fill these and other positions to help FUMC to *"press on"*.



## Debriefing for the Laity of the North Texas Conference

*Special Conference Event for ALL Laity!*

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 ~ 9:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.**

Panelists and presenters will consist of the Lay Delegation and Alternates to General Conference. This event is being held to equip Disciples and will be at:

Walnut Hill UMC  
10066 Marsh Lane  
Dallas, TX 75229

There will be Panel Discussion, Lunch, and Information Sessions on topics discussed in committee and brought to the floor for a vote.

The cost is \$20 (Includes lunch).

Or call Susan Anderson at (940) 497-2707 to register.

- \* Carole Venhaus, Minister of Music
- \* Pat Doan, Keyboardist
- \* Stacia Arredondo, Secretary
- \* Rachel Spears, Nursery Attendant
- \* Kati Skinner, Nursery Attendant

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